

Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Report Card		Pilot Biosolids/Green Waste Composting Project
Regional Water Board	Region 5S - Sacramento	OUTCOMES: <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsatisfactory
Total Project Cost	\$47,000	
SEP Funding	\$29,761	
Approval Date	7/23/2009	
Project Category	Restoration	

Summary

During the late 1800's, hydraulic mining in Nevada County caused significant amounts of topsoil to be washed away. Many of the mining sites continue to be denuded of vegetation, allowing sediment to enter surface waters during each major rain event. The Nevada County Sanitation District (District) proposed this SEP, in partnership with the US Forest Service, to develop a pilot Biosolids/Green Waste Composting project. This project consisted of creating local compost which was then applied to a former mine site in hopes of returning it to vibrant forest land capable of supporting native vegetation and preventing sediment erosion, and returning natural fauna to the site.

Unfortunately, after production of the compost and application of approximately 14 cu. yds to 2,500 sq. ft. of forest service land, the project was discontinued due to permitting complications (increased costs related to the USFS land application permit). To satisfy their liability, the District paid the balance on the SEP (\$17,239) to the Cleanup and Abatement Account.

Project Location Map



Composting Operation



Photo by Scot Nelson/ CC BY SA 2.0/ Cropped from original.

Water Quality Outcomes

- *Exact outcome is unknown because project was discontinued after applying 2,500 sq.ft. of compost.*